

## REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 21, 2002 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 7-10 and 12 are pending in this application, with claim 7 being the only independent claim. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action mailed May 21, 2002, the specification is objected to under 35 U.S.C. §132 because the Examiner states that the phrase "other adhesives" is new matter. The original specification states that thermoplastic long-term adhesives are applied to one side of the glass fiber fabric wallpaper and that the long-term adhesives preferably consist of a water soluble hot melt or pressure-sensitive hot melt adhesive (page 2, lines 10-14). The term "long-term adhesive" was replaced with --permanent adhesive-- in an amendment filed January 10, 2001. Furthermore, the original application stated "Examples of suitable hot melt adhesives are..." which was followed by a list of adhesives. Accordingly, the specification did not state that the list of adhesives were the only adhesives which could be used. Rather, it stated that the list included examples which can be used.

Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, Tenth Edition, (excerpt attached) defines the term 'example' as follows: "one (as an item or incident) that is representative of all of a group or type". According to this definition, the examples listed in the original application are merely representative of a group or type of hot melt adhesives. Since the specific adhesives listed in the original application are defined as examples in the original specification, it is respectfully submitted that the original specification included others of the group of hot melt adhesives. For clarification, the specification has been amended to recite --other hot melt adhesives-- instead of "other thermoplastic long-term adhesives" because the list in the specification was described as examples

of hot melt adhesives. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the term "other hot melt adhesives" does not constitute new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification now be withdrawn.

Claims 7-10 and 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,985,775 (Deeb) in view of German Patent Reference No. 37 41 194 A1 (Ditzel).

Independent claim 7 of the present invention is drawn to a self-adhesive glass fiber fabric wallpaper and recites "a sheet of woven glass fiber fabric comprising woven strands and having a first side and a second side, at least said first side having raised points where said woven strands cross", "an interrupted layer including a thermoplastic permanent adhesive adhering only to said raised points of said first side of said sheet of glass fiber fabric for holding said sheet of glass fiber fabric to a wall substrate", and "wherein an amount and a viscosity of said thermoplastic permanent adhesive are designed for preventing the thermoplastic permanent adhesive from penetrating said glass fiber fabric and contaminating said second side of said glass fiber fabric".

It is respectfully submitted that independent claim 7 is allowable over Deeb and Ditzel for the following reasons: (1) Deeb relates to an adhesive tape and therefore does not teach or suggest anything about a self adhesive wallpaper, (2) Deeb teaches that the adhesive of a substrate is applied to a polymer layer on the woven fabric not directly on the raised points at the overlapping fibers of the fabric, and (2) Ditzel relates to paper wallpaper and therefore fails to teach or suggest applying an adhesive only to the overlapping fibers of a woven cloth.

Deeb discloses an adhesive tape comprising a woven cloth in which a polymer is embedded to bond the warp and weft fibers of the cloth. The polymer is applied such that one side of the tape comprises a continuous layer of the polymer while the other side of the tape has the feel of a cloth (see col 8, lines 64-66). A pressure sensitive adhesive is then applied to the polymer. The

various examples of Deeb teach that the adhesive can be wiped onto the polymer, applied with a knife coater, hot melt coated, or solvent coated onto the polymer. Each of these examples indicates that the adhesive coating is applied as a continuous layer onto the polymer. Since Deeb discloses an adhesive tape, Deeb fails to teach or suggest applying a pressure sensitive adhesive to a wall paper. Deeb also fails to teach or suggest that the adhesive is applied directly to the woven substrate, as recited in independent claim 1. Furthermore, since Deeb fails to teach or suggest that the adhesive is applied directly to the fibers, Deeb fails to teach or suggest an interrupted layer of adhesive adhering only to the raised points where the woven strands cross, as recited in independent claim 1.

Ditzel fails to teach what Deeb lacks. Ditzel discloses a foam to be used for dry application of a wall paper to a wall-like substrate. Ditzel shows that the foam may be applied to the wallpaper in a pattern of islands. However, Ditzel discloses at col. 4, lines 3-7, that after application or pressing of the paper onto a wall surface, 100% of the surface is covered due to the elasticity of the foam. Furthermore, Ditzel shows that the wallpaper is the conventional paper wall paper and does not teach or suggest that the adhesive is applied to a woven cloth wallpaper. Ditzel discloses patterns shown in Figs. 6a - 6g for the application of the adhesive to the substrate which do not relate to a pattern of raised points on a fabric. Accordingly, even if the foam of Ditzel were applied to a cloth substrate, there is no teaching or suggestion in Deeb or Ditzel for applying the adhesive to only the raised points of the overlapping fibers.

It is respectfully submitted that the teaching of Ditzel would not be applied to Deeb because Deeb relates to adhesive tapes and Ditzel discloses a method for dry wallpapering. However, even the combined teachings of Deeb and Ditzel fail to teach or suggest the claimed invention. Neither Deeb nor Ditzel teaches or suggests that an adhesive can be applied to a woven substrate so that the adhesive adheres only to the raised portions of the first side of the sheet of

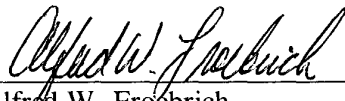
woven substrate. Each prior art reference must be considered in its entirety, including disclosures that teach away from the claims. In contrast to the claimed invention, Deeb teaches that when a cloth or woven substrate is used, a polymer is used to bond the crossing strands of the fiber and the adhesive is applied to the polymer layer. Therefore, even if the application of adhesive as taught by Ditzel were combined with Deeb, the adhesive would be applied to the continuous polymer layer and not the woven substrate. Moreover, even if the foam were applied to a woven glass fiber fabric, there is no suggestion in Deeb or Ditzel the adhesive should be applied only to raised points of the fabric. It is respectfully submitted that neither Deeb nor Ditzel provides any motivation to apply adhesive to only raised points of a woven substrate. In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that independent claim 7 is allowable over Deeb in view of Ditzel.

Dependent claims 8-10 and 12, being dependent on independent claim 7, are allowable for at least the same reasons.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS SHOWING CHANGES**

### **In the Specification:**

Page 2, please amend the paragraph starting at line 15 as follows:

--According to the present invention, a thermoplastic permanent adhesive is provided on one side of a woven glass fiber fabric wallpaper for holding the wallpaper on a wall substrate. Thermoplastic permanent adhesives are available commercially and are described, for example, in Römpp Chemie-Lexikon, 9<sup>th</sup> Edition, George Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart, New York, 1995, page 4037. Examples of suitable hot melt adhesives which may be used as the permanent adhesives for the woven glass fiber wall paper are hot melt adhesives including "HELMITHERM 42034" (based on polypropylene-copolymers) from Forbo-Helmitin GmbH, Pirmasens, "TIVOLMELT 9058/30" (based on polyolefin-copolymers), "TIVOMELT 9041" (based on polyolefin-copolymers) and "TIVOMELT 9162" (based on polyesters) from Tivoli Werke Ag, Hamburg, and "TECHNOMELT Q 5304" (based on polyolefin-copolymers) from Henkel KGaA, Dusseldorf. The ductile pressure-sensitive hot melt adhesives feature particularly long bond times, contain no hazardous ingredients, and are not self-igniting. The permanent adhesive may also undergo post-crosslinking. The permanent adhesive is applied by heat treatment to one side of the glass fiber fabric and after cooling is permanently tacky. Of course other [thermoplastic permanent] hot melt adhesives which exhibit the required characteristics may also be used as thermoplastic permanent adhesives and the present invention is not limited to the above-listed adhesives.--

ex-an-them-a *ˈɛx.ən.θɪ.mə* pl. -thems also -them-a-ta *ˈɛx.zən.θi.ˈmɑːtə* \-them-a-tə *ˈɛx.ən.θə.mə* exan-them, fr. Gk *exanthema*, fr. *exanthēin* to bloom, break out, fr. *ex- + anthos* flower — more at ANTHOLOGY (1656) : an eruptive disease (as measles) or its symptomatic eruption — *ex-an-them-a-tous* *ˈɛx.zən.θi.ˈmɑːtəs* or *ex-an-them-a-tic* \-zən.θi.ˈmɑːtɪk/ *adj*  
**ex-arch** *ˈɛk.ˈsɑːrk* \-sɑːrk/ [ LL *exarchus*, fr. LGk *exarchos*, fr. Gk, leader, fr. *exarchein* to begin, take the lead, fr. *ex- + archēin* to rule, begin — more at ARCH. (1588) 1 : a Byzantine vicero 2 : an Eastern bishop ranking below a patriarch and above a metropolitan; *specif* : the head of an independent church — *ex-arch-al* *ˈɛk.ˈsɑːrk.əl* *adj* — *ex-arch-ate* *ˈɛk.ˈsɑːrk.ət* \-sɑːrk.ət/ *n* — *ex-arch-ic* *ˈɛk.ˈsɑːrk.ɪk* *adj*  
**exarch** *ˈɛk.sɑːrk* [ *ex- + archē* (1891) : formed or taking place from the periphery of a center (see *xylem*) ]  
**exasperate** *ˈɛɡ.zəs.pə.ˈræt* \-pə.ˈræt/ *v* **at-*ed*; -at-ing** [ *exasperatus*, pp. of *exasperare*, fr. *ex- + asper* harder — more at ASPERTY (1534) 1 a : to excite the anger of; ENRAGE b : to cause irritation or annoyance to 2 obs : to make more grievous; AGGRAVATE *syn* *IRRITATE*  
**ex-as-per-at-ed-ly** *adv* — *ex-as-per-at-ing-ly* \-ræt-ɪŋ-lee/ *adv*  
**ex-as-per-ate** *ˈɛ(p)ˌsə.ˈræt* *adj* (1541) 1 : irritated or annoyed esp. to the point of injudicious action : EXASPERATED 2 : roughened with irregular prickles or elevations (∼ seed coats)  
**ex-as-per-a-tion** *ˈɛɡ.zəs.pə.ˈræ.ʃən* \-ʃən/ *n* (1547) 1 : the state of being exasperated 2 : the act or an instance of exasperating  
**Ex-cal-i-bur** *ˈɛk.ˈskə.lə.bər* \-lə.bər/ *n* [ME *Excaliber*, fr. OF *Escalibor*, fr. ML *Caliburnus* : the sword of King Arthur  
**ex-ca-the-dra** *ˈɛks.kə.ˈθi.ˈdrə* *adv* or *adj* [NL, lit., from the chair] (1818) : by virtue of or in the exercise of one's office or position (see *cathedra* pronouncements)  
**ex-ca-vate** *ˈɛk.sə.ˈvɑːt* \-vɑːt-*ed*; -vāt-ing [ *excavatus*, pp. of *excavare*, fr. *excavare* to make hollow — more at CAVATINA v (1599) ] 1 : to form a cavity or hole in 2 : to form by hollowing out 3 : to dig out and remove 4 : to expose to view by or as if by digging away a covering (∼ the remains of a temple) (another writer whose work I excavated — William Zinsser) ∼ *vi* : to make excavations  
**ex-ca-va-tion** *ˈɛk.sə.ˈvɑː.ʃən* \-ʃən/ *n* (ca. 1611) 1 : the action or process of excavating 2 : a cavity formed by cutting, digging, or scooping — *ex-ca-va-tion-al* \-ʃənəl-, -ʃən-əl/ *adj*  
**ex-ca-va-tor** *ˈɛk.sə.ˈvɑː.tər* \-tər/ *n* (ca. 1815) : one that excavates; *esp* : a power-operated shovel  
**ex-ceed** *ˈɛk.ˈsiːd* \-sēd/ [ME *exceden*, fr. MF *exceder*, fr. L *excedere*, fr. *ex- + cedere* to go] *v* (14c) 1 : to extend outside of (the river will ∼ its banks) 2 : to be greater than or superior to 3 : to go beyond a limited set by (∼ his authority) ∼ *vi* 1 obs : OVERDO 2 : PREDOMINATE *syn* *EXCEED*, SURPASS, TRANSCEND, EXCEL, OUTDO, OUTSTRIP mean to go or be beyond a stated or implied limit, measure, or degree. EXCEED implies going beyond a limited set by authority or established by custom or by prior achievement. EXCEED (the speed limit), SURPASS suggests superiority in quality, merit, or skill (the book surpassed our expectations), TRANSCEND implies a rising or extending notably above or beyond ordinary limits (transcended the values of their culture), EXCEL implies preeminence in achievement or quality and may suggest superiority to all others (excels in mathematics), OUTDO applies to a bettering or exceeding what has been done before (outdid herself this time), OUTSTRIP suggests surpassing in a race or competition (outstripped other firms in sales)  
**ex-ceed-ing** *adj* (15c) : exceptional in amount, quality, or degree  
**ex-ceed-ing-ly** \-sēd-ɪŋ-lee/ also **ex-ceed-ing** *adv* (1535) : to an extreme degree : EXTREMELY  
**ex-cel** *ˈɛk.səl* *v* **ex-cel-led**; **ex-cel-ling** [ME *excellen*, fr. L *excellere*, fr. *ex- + cedere* to rise, project; akin to L *collis* hill — more at HILL v (15c) : to be superior to : surpass in accomplishment or achievement ∼ *vi* : to be distinguishable by superiority : surpass others (∼ in sports) (excelled at lipreading) *syn* *EXCEED*  
**ex-cel-lence** *ˈɛk.səl.ˈlɛn.s* \-lɛn.ˈs/ *n* (14c) 1 the quality of being excellent 2 : an excellent or valuable quality : VIRTUE 3 : EXCELLENCY  
**ex-cel-len-cy** \-sə.ˈlɒn.ˈtɪ.ˈsē/ *n*, pl. -cies (15c) 1 : EXCELLENCE; *esp* : outstanding or valuable quality — *usu.* used in pl. (so crammed, he thinks, with excellencies — Shak.) 2 — used as a title for high dignitaries of state (as a governor or an ambassador) or church (as a Roman Catholic archbishop or bishop)  
**ex-cel-lent** *ˈɛk.səl.ˈlɒnt* \-lɒnt/ *adj* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *excellens*, *excellens*, fr. prp. of *excellere*] (14c) 1 *archaic* : SUPERIOR 2 : very good of its kind : eminently good : FIRST-CLASS — *ex-cel-lent-ly* *adv*  
**ex-cel-si-or** *ˈɛk.səl.ˈsē.ər*, -ər *n* [trade name, fr. L, higher, compar. of *excelsus* high, fr. prp. of *excellere*] (1688) : fine curled wood shavings used esp. for packing fragile items  
**ex-cept** *ˈɛk.sɛpt* also **ex-cept-ing** \-sɛpt-ɪŋ/ *prep* (14c) : with the exclusion or exception of (daily ∼ Sundays)  
**except** *v* [ME, fr. MF *excepter*, fr. L *exceptare*, fr. *exceptus*, pp. of *excipere* to take up, except, fr. *ex- + capere* to take — more at HEAVE v (15c) : to take leave out from a number or list : EXCLUDE ∼ *vi* : to take exception : OBJECT — *ex-cep-tive* \-sɛpt-ɪv/ *adj*  
**except also excepting** *conj* (15c) 1 : on any other condition than that : UNLESS (∼ you repent) 2 : with this exception, namely (was inaccessible ∼ by boat) 3 : ONLY — often followed by *that* (I would go ∼ that it's too far)  
**except for** *prep* (1842) 1 : with the exception of (everyone was gone except for me) 2 : were it not for (*except* for you I would be dead)  
**ex-cep-tion** *ˈɛk.sɛp.ʃən* \-ʃən/ *n* (14c) 1 : the act of excepting : EXCLUSION 2 : one that is excepted; *esp* : a case to which a rule does not apply 3 : QUESTION, OBJECTION (witnesses whose authority is beyond ∼ — T. B. Macaulay) 4 : an oral or written legal objection  
**ex-cep-tion-a-ble** *ˈɛk.sɛp.ʃən.ə.ˈbl* *adj* (1691) : being likely to cause objection : OBJECTIONABLE (visitors often drink the beer — W. D. Howells)  
**ex-cep-tion-a-bil-i-ty** \-sɛp.ʃən.ə.ˈbl-ə.ˈtɪ.ˈtɪ/ *n* — *ex-cep-tion-a-bly* \-sɛp.ʃən.ə.ˈbl-ə/ *adv*